

# Kingston u3a News Bulletin March 2022 No 42

(Sent out Monday, 28 February)

We begin this month's news bulletin asking if there are any hearing aid users out there who would be willing to help researchers with their project.

The Old Drivers Forum is offering a free webinar on changes in The Highway Code and passing on some tips to keep you driving safely.

We've details on a new Tai Chi group and on Pilates classes. Unfortunately in our newsletter last month we made several mistakes in the Groups & Contacts listings and we've included the corrections below.

The Third Age Trust has a series of online talks throughout March on a range of subjects and the dates have now been confirmed for the London Region summer school. There are still tickets available for some of the online talks that we've advertised in previous bulletins. You can find all details below.

Details of Kingston **u3a**'s next three monthly meetings are given below, along with submission dates for our next news bulletin and newsletter. We look forward to receiving your contributions and photographs.

Keep in touch and continue to keep safe!

## Hearing Aid Study: Research Project

Imperial College and University College London (UCL) are looking for volunteers who use hearing aids to help them with some research.

UCL's Department of Speech, Hearing and Phonetic Sciences would like to know how well commercial hearing aids perform in situations that you may often find yourselves in. Many hard-of-hearing people complain about their hearing aids in noisy or reverberant places, for example in a restaurant, a car or a kitchen. Manufacturers rarely try out their products in such daily environments, typically using artificial sounds in laboratory settings, so it's difficult to know which hearing aid works best in different real-life situations.

The researchers have recorded speech in some everyday noisy settings, using special techniques to simulate the experience of listening through hearing aids. They now want to present the recorded speech to hearing-aid users.

You can read more on how the research will be carried out and what it will involve in the leaflet [Hearing Aid User?](#)

If you would then like to take part, please contact Dr Gaston Hilkhuisen at [G.Hilkhuisen@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:G.Hilkhuisen@ucl.ac.uk) or by telephone on 020 7679 4235.

Please note: Before you agree to get involved in any studies, please check **u3a**'s [Research Participation Advice](#) on our website.

## Safer Driving: An Online Webinar on Zoom

The Older Drivers Forum is running a free webinar on the new Highway Code.

This webinar will:

- give an update on the findings from the Older Drivers Task Force Report published in November 2021
- go over the new Highway Code, concentrating particularly on the recent changes
- give advice on safe driving tips to help mature motorists carry on driving safely for longer.

You'll have the opportunity to ask the speakers questions after the presentation.

The webinar will be held twice and will last for 90 minutes with a 10-minute break in the middle.

### Registration

Each webinar has 500 free places. Please register to receive your invitation link to join the webinar on Zoom:

- [Thursday 10 March, 2pm](#) or
- [Monday 14 March, 7pm](#)

### Further Information

Visit the [Older Drivers Forum](#) to find out more about its webinars

## Group News

### New Groups

#### Tai Chi for Beginners

10.30am, Tuesday weekly

Jill Smith

020 8390 0440

[jill.smith3@btinternet.com](mailto:jill.smith3@btinternet.com)

Surbiton

Vacancies

#### Pilates

The group is currently meeting at 11am every Tuesday. They plan to start a second group after Easter.

## Groups & Contacts List: Three Corrections

In the recent newsletter, some details about three of our groups were wrong.

Please see the correct details below.

### Art Appreciation 3: Artists, Gallery Visits & Discussion

2.30pm 2nd Thursday in the month

Annie Hawkins

020 8977 2293

[anniehawkeye@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:anniehawkeye@hotmail.co.uk)

Hampton Wick

### Jazz Appreciation

2pm last Friday in the month

Ken Frost

020 8977 8976

Teddington

### Opera Appreciation

Friday morning, once every two months

Paul Storm-Larsen

020 8409 0354

[paul.sto@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:paul.sto@blueyonder.co.uk)

North Kingston

Our apologies for getting the information wrong in our earlier publications.

## u3a Online Events

The Third Age Trust is holding some online talks in March and April which may be of interest to you.

You can see them all listed on the national [u3a](#) website, along with dates and times. These events are free of charge.

- [Toulouse-Lautrec and the Cabarets of Paris](#) – Wed 2 Mar, 2pm
- [Beginners Genealogy Course](#) (eight-week course) – 10am Thursdays 3 Mar-21 Apr
- [The Geology of Igneous Rocks: Part 1](#) – Thu 3 Mar, 2pm
- [Ancient Civilisations of the Americas: The Inca](#) (four-week course) – 4pm Mondays 7-28 March
- [Eleanor Rathbone, 1872-1946: The Woman Behind the Portrait](#) – Tue 8 Mar, 10am
- [The Human Microbiome: Part 1](#) – Wed 9 Mar, 2pm
- [Sculpting after the Holocaust: The Story of Naomi Blake](#) – Tue 15 Mar, 2pm
- [Exploring World Faiths: Lent and Ramadan](#) – Mon 21 Mar, 10am

- [The Climate Crisis and Some Solutions](#) – Wed 23 Mar, 10.30am
- [Live Cookery Demonstration: Recipes to Celebrate Spring](#) – Thu 31 Mar, 10.30am
- [The Geology of Igneous Rocks: Part 2](#) – Thu 7 Apr, 2pm

It's a good idea to make a note of the national [u3a Events](#) page and check it regularly to make sure you are in time to book any new talks you are interested in. By the time we publish our bulletins and newsletters, these events are often sold out.

## London Region Summer School: 26-27 July

This will be held at St. Bride's Institute, off Fleet Street.

Activities include talks, workshops and guided walks. There'll be a wide range of subjects to choose from – Art, Current Affairs, History, Literature, Music, Sciences and Social Studies, with London as a general theme throughout.

The full programme and booking details will be publicised from mid-April and we'll include these in our monthly news bulletin when they become available. Until then, check the [London Region](#) website regularly:

## Other Talks and Events

There are still places available for the following talks and events which we've advertised in previous bulletins:

### **u3a London Region: Online Talks – March-April**

Each talk takes place on a Monday, 5.30pm-6.30pm (log in from 5pm)

- The Bayeux Tapestry and its Hidden Messages – 7 Mar
- Tulips: A Terrible, Triumphant Story – 21 Mar
- Women in Ancient Egypt – 4 Apr

You'll find more details of each talk in the flyer [Online Talks: January-April 2022](#) along with a link to the relevant registration form.

After registration you'll automatically receive a booking confirmation email. Retain this as a reminder of your booking details. Please note: only one application per person per talk.

## Study Day: The Challenges of Architecture – Tuesday, 24 May

SW London Consortium is organising this study day in the Mayo Hall at the United Reformed Church in Kingston. The programme includes three talks and a walk, plus tea/coffee. Tickets: £15. The flyer, with full description, directions and booking details, will be published at a later date. In the meantime, keep your eye on [London Region](#)'s website.

## Surrey Network: Study Days

Some study days have been arranged for 2022 and you can now register.

**Time:** 10am-4pm, (registration and login begin at 9.30am)

**Dates:** See programme details below.

**Place:** You can attend in person at the Menuhin Hall, Stoke d'Abernon or join online via Zoom.

**Cost (including tea/coffee biscuits):** £12 for members and £15 for guests attending in person. £5 for those attending via Zoom. Attendees should bring their own packed lunch.

### Programme:

- [Art and Objects of the Moghul Emperors](#): Ursula Weekes – Fri 18 March
- [Illuminated Manuscripts of the Medieval Period](#): Imogen Corrigan – Fri 22 April
- [Chemistry, Cosmetics and Killers – Secret Lives of the Elements, Chemistry of the Human Body, Poisons, Dying to be Beautiful](#): Dr Kathryn Harkup – Fri 20 May (Please note that this study day has changed its title and content since we first advertised it.)
- [Understanding Turner – The Man, His Life and His Work](#): Professor Maria Chester – Fri 17 June

You can see the dates of other study days which will be held later in 2022 on the [Surrey Network's website](#).

## Kingston u3a: Monthly Meetings

The meetings listed below will be online via Zoom. We'll send out invitations to all those members for whom we have email addresses. Up to 500 people can participate in an online meeting. For these meetings you are also welcome to come along to the United Reformed Church in person. You do not need to book in advance. (Please note that these arrangements may have to change if lockdown regulations are re-introduced.)

### Monday 7 March, 2pm

#### Climbing Kilimanjaro – Graham Horn

Have you ever looked at a picture of Kilimanjaro or seen the mountain and thought you'd like to go up there? Graham Horn did just that and he'll describe the physical and emotional journey, and the fantastic porters who made it happen. He'll show us the flora and fauna, the ever-changing views and the ice caps and crater at the top.

### Monday 4 April, 2pm

## How Magicians are seen in Paintings, Prints and Cartoons – Ian Keable

Early artists used the magician to symbolise the mysterious and the unknown, associating them with astrology and tarot cards. In the 16th century, Pieter Bruegel and Hieronymus Bosch produced pictures of the conjurer performing the cups and balls trick. The 18th and 19th century saw a proliferation in engravings and lithographs showing the magician both indoors and on the streets. Cartoonists and satirists delighted in linking politicians and skulduggery, with images of them featuring the three-card trick, vanishing illusions or pulling a rabbit out of the hat.

## Monday 9 May, 2pm

### Charles Darwin and the Voyage of *HMS Beagle*, 1831-1836 – James Taylor

This talk focuses on the family and influences on Charles Darwin and Captain Robert FitzRoy, the commander of *HMS Beagle*, and their participation in the celebrated second voyage of the ship that has shaped our lives. It enabled Darwin to collect vital evidence for his ground-breaking publication, *On the Origin of Species*. FitzRoy paid for two artists, Augustus Earle and Conrad Martens, to paint the people and places encountered, and these images underpin the seafaring stories.

## May Newsletter

We are looking for contributions to our next quarterly newsletter which will be out in May.

We're always happy to receive articles on topics such as:

- reports from your groups
- poems
- stories
- recommendations for books, programmes on TV, radio or online, box sets.

Photos (with captions) are always welcome and brighten up our pages.

Please send any contributions to Susan Hinchsliffe at [newsletter@kingstonu3a.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@kingstonu3a.org.uk) by Thursday, 14 April.

The next Kingston **u3a** news bulletin will be emailed to you in early April. Please forward any contributions or suggestions to Susan Hinchsliffe at [communications@kingstonu3a.org.uk](mailto:communications@kingstonu3a.org.uk) by Friday, 25 March.

In the meantime, please check the [Kingston u3a](http://Kingston u3a) website regularly. Many thanks.

## Changing your Membership Details

If you change your address, email or telephone/mobile number, please let Chris Cheek know at [database@kingstonu3a.org.uk](mailto:database@kingstonu3a.org.uk). Chris is also able to change your preferences for receiving post or emails or the *Third Age Matters* magazine.

## Changing Group Details

If you spot any mistakes or need to make any of the following changes to the Groups & Contacts list which is published in the quarterly newsletter:

- a group's name
- meeting times and locations
- a group leader's contact details

please let Keith Maund know at [keithmaund@outlook.com](mailto:keithmaund@outlook.com). He keeps a master copy of the spread sheet which contains all this information and passes it on to the newsletter editor, Susan Hinchliffe, and the webmaster, Diane Wilson. Thank you.